

INTRODUCED: September 9, 2024

A RESOLUTION No. 2024-R029

To support the designation of the city of Richmond as an Inclusive Recovery City and to support the Mayor's commitment to providing resources to persons in recovery from addiction.

Patron – Mayor Stoney

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEP 23 2024 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities is an initiative that was created in the United Kingdom in an effort to reduce stigma around substance use disorder and recovery from substance use disorder by Professors David Best, Charlotte Colman, Stuart Green, Dot Smith, and Mulka Nisic; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities bring city councils, private and public organizations, housing facilities, welfare and health centers, specialist treatment providers and recovery community groups, employers, neighbors, people in recovery, and their families together to make recovery visible and to celebrate it; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

Cities have been developed in 26 other localities across the world, including New Zealand, Europe, South Africa, Australia, and the Balkans; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities increase knowledge about recovery within the community and creates new connections to resources for people in recovery; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities encourage people struggling with addictions and promote and champion visible pathways to recovery; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities challenge stigmas toward people in recovery and the exclusion of people at all stages of their recovery journeys; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities engage and involve the wider public, policy makers, and practitioners in making recovery visible and celebrating it; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities contribute to the connectedness and wellbeing of the wider community; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, Inclusive Recovery Cities recognize the contribution of the recovery community to the wellbeing of the city; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2022-R013, adopted on February 28, 2022, the Mayor and Council declared opioid drug overdoses a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, from January to June 2024, the city of Richmond has had 693 overdose emergency department visits, or 115 per month; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, in 2023, the city of Richmond had 1,750 overdose emergency department visits, which is an average of 146 per month; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Mayor and Council, in 2023, the city of Richmond had 297 confirmed fatal overdoses, of which, 270 were from opioids; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council believe that it is in the best interest of the residents of the city of Richmond that the Mayor and Council support the designation of the city of Richmond as the first Inclusive Recovery City in the United States to provide resources to persons in recovery from addiction;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Council hereby joins the Mayor in designating the City of Richmond as an Inclusive Recovery City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Council joins the Mayor in supporting the Mayor's commitment to provide resources to persons in recovery from addiction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, only to the extent permitted by law, facilitation of Richmond's Inclusive Recovery Cities Initiative program is assigned to the Department of Human Services, to do the following:

1. Facilitate the work of the Inclusive Cities Council, which is the core group of people in the city who are leading the implementation process of "Inclusive Cities" in the city of Richmond.
2. Support the mission and vision specifically developed for the city of Richmond by

the Inclusive City Council.

3. Support the activities, developed by the Inclusive City Council, to make recovery visible and to celebrate it in the city of Richmond.

4. Facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of the City of Richmond's Inclusive Recovery Cities Initiative.

5. Implementing and testing the concept of Inclusive Cities through the exchange of good practices between participating cities across the world.

6. Contribute to an international dialogue to promote the merits of Inclusive Recovery.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov

Master

File Number: Admin-2024-1026

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Patron(s):

Enactment Date:

Attachments: Admin-2024-1026 Inclusive Recovery Cities Ordinance Language AATF, Admin-2024-1026 Building Inclusive Cities Charter

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Contact:

Introduction Date:

Drafter:

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Related Files:

Approval History

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1	1	8/21/2024	Traci DeShazor	Approve	8/21/2024
1	2	8/21/2024	Jeff Gray	Approve	8/23/2024
Notes: Approved: Out of Office					
1	3	8/21/2024	Lincoln Saunders	Approve	8/29/2024
1	4	9/3/2024	Mayor Stoney	Approve	9/4/2024

History of Legislative File

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Text of Legislative File Admin-2024-1026

City of Richmond
Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: Wednesday, July 24, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Traci DeShazor, DCAO for Human Services

FROM: J.D. Ratliff, Policy Advisor

RE: To declare the City of Richmond an Inclusive Recovery City, one of the first in the United States.

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: To designate the City of Richmond as an Inclusive Recovery City in furtherance of the Department of Human Services' and Mayor's commitment to providing community support to those in recovery from addiction.

BACKGROUND: The City continues to develop an evolving response to the opioid epidemic. This response includes primary oversight of the Richmond Opioid Task Force including leadership on the steering committee and associated administrative tasks. Additionally, the City is currently participating in two cooperative Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) grants for FY2024 with regional partners and has received approval from the OAA for three individual and one cooperative grant with focus on preventing and treating opioid use disorders. The City has hired dedicated staff to provide leadership, planning, management, and coordination of the City's response to the opioid epidemic, as well as provide intra and interagency coordination across various departments regarding the epidemic and connect with community stakeholders. Given this robust response to the City's opioid epidemic, the Opioid Response Team proposes the City become an Inclusive Recovery City.

An inclusive Recovery City (“IRC”) is a city where recovery is celebrated and supported. The recovery community is integrated throughout the City, reaching diverse populations and people in recovery actively contribute to the City’s wellbeing. The aspiration of an IRC is to create inclusivity and “reciprocal altruism” through tapping into the skills, resources, and capabilities of people in recovery to generate inclusive activities and networks benefiting the whole community. Recovery involves a ritual and the role of such rituals is to foster social bonding, strengthen solidarity and social cohesion by bringing people together and celebrating success. Celebrating the change process of a person in recovery is beneficial not only for that person in recovery but also for the community as a whole. Visible people in recovery spread the possibility of recovery among those who need it most; they are the living example that recovery is possible and that a life in recovery is a productive and successful life. The purpose of an IRC is to make recovery visible and to celebrate recovery by organizing activities that bring people together. IRCs are founded on evidenced based principles, specifically the Connectedness, Hope, Identity, Meaning and Empowerment (CHIME) model of recovery and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) models.

There is an opportunity for the City to become one of the first IRCs in the United States. This would demonstrate the City’s commitment to inclusivity, stigma reduction, and collaborative work to benefit the City, especially historically marginalized communities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: This proposal was informed by significant stakeholder engagement and developed with direct input and support from external agencies and subject matter experts on the Richmond Opioid Task Force.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL: RES. 2022-R013 declaring opioid drug overdose deaths as a public health crisis in the City of Richmond; Richmond Opioid Task Force.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to the City of Richmond nor a city match requirement.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: September 9, 2024

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: September 23, 2024

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent agenda

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Education and Human Services

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Neighborhood and Community Services

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Res. No. 2018-R094; Ord. No. 2021-234;
Res. No. 2021-R078; Resolution 2022-R013; Res. No. 2023-R010; Ord. No. 2023-293; Ord. No.
2024-099

ATTACHMENTS: Inclusive Recovery Cities Charter

STAFF: Michael Fatula, Opioid Response Coordinator, 804-944-7291, Michael.fatula@rva.gov
<<mailto:Michael.fatula@rva.gov>>

Dominic Barrett, Strategic Projects and Grants Advisor, 804-646-5861, dominic.barrett@rva.gov
<<mailto:dominic.barrett@rva.gov>>

BUILDING INCLUSIVE Recovery Cities

CHARTER

This charter describes the commitment of this city to focus on making recovery from substance use visible, as well as taking actions towards inclusiveness for people in recovery, following the principles of “Inclusive Cities”.

The idea of “Inclusive Cities” starts from the scientific fact that recovery is not only an issue of personal motivation but also about acceptance by family, friends and a range of organisations and professionals across the community that reduce exclusion and generate pathways to community resources that are generally needed to support recovery.

Recovery happens in the community, in our city. It does not happen in a vacuum. Therefore, to support pathways to recovery, structural and contextual endeavours are needed to supplement individually-oriented interventions and programmes. Further the victims of exclusion and marginalisation are not only those who are on their own recovery journeys, but also the affected others such as partners, parents and children of persons in recovery.

This Charter is developed by the International Community of Inclusive Cities, led by **Prof. David Best, Prof. Charlotte Colman, Stuart Green, Dot Smith** and **Mulka Nisic**.

In an Inclusive City, we bring the city council, private and public organisations, housing facilities, welfare and health centres, specialist treatment providers and recovery community groups, employers, neighbours, people in recovery and their families together to make recovery visible and to celebrate it.

Recovery involves a ritual and the role of such rituals is to foster social bonding, strengthen solidarity and social cohesion by bringing people together and celebrating success. Celebrating the change process of a person in recovery is beneficial, not only for the person in recovery, but also for the community as a whole. Visible people in recovery, spread the possibility of recovery among those who need it most: they are the living example that recovery is possible and that a life in recovery is a productive and successful life. We are committing as a city to promoting and supporting that process.

Charter continues, overleaf.



**Inclusive
Cities.**



BUILDING INCLUSIVE Recovery Cities

CHARTER

As such, the intended impact of Inclusive Cities is:

- To increase the knowledge about recovery within the community and awareness of the recovery community;
- To create new connections to community resources for people in recovery and to strengthen existing pathways;
- To encourage people struggling with addictions that recovery is possible and to promote and champion visible pathways to recovery;
- To challenge stigma towards people in recovery and exclusion of people at all stages of their recovery journeys;
- To engage and involve the wider public, policy makers and practitioners in making recovery visible and celebrate it;
- To contribute to the connectedness and wellbeing of the wider community
- To recognize the contribution of the recovery community to the wellbeing and vibrancy of the city.

I, the undersigned Mayor, recognise and value the idea of Inclusive Cities and I aim to implement them in my city.

I will:

- Facilitate the work of the Inclusive Cities Council, which is the core group of people in the city who are leading the implementation process of “Inclusive Cities” in my city
- Support the mission and vision specifically developed for my city by the Inclusive City Council
- Support the activities, developed by the Inclusive City Council, to make recovery visible and to celebrate it in my city
- Facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of my Inclusive City
- Engage in a European and/or international exchange of good practices regarding Inclusive Cities. By building a learning set of cities across the world, the idea of Inclusive Cities might be implemented and tested in practice.
- Contribute to an international dialogue to promote the merits of Inclusive Recovery Cities

As the International Community of Inclusive Cities we:

Assist in implementing the ideas of an Inclusive City
in your city.

Share good practices from other Inclusive Cities
Provide a forum to exchange insights
and good practices

Champion the Inclusive Recovery Cities model



**Inclusive
Cities.**

